

Message Text

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13

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /143 W

----- 077979

R 010729Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2186

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 2708

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENGR, VS

SUBJ: OIL EXPLORATION CONCESSIONS

PASS TO AID

REF: A. STATE 031727 (NOTAL) B. SAIGON 1346 C. SINGAPORE 0571

D. SAIGON 2355

SUMMARY: RUBINA OIL INC., A SINGAPOREAN BASED FIRM WITH NO KNOWN CONNECTION WITH ENI, MADE PROPOSAL TO DRILL IN MEKONG DELTA. PROPOSAL WAS REJECTED BY GVN BECAUSE IT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE OUTSIDE SCOPE OF NATIONAL PETROLEUM LAW. END SUMMARY

1. DURING CALL ON DR. HUNG EMBOFF LEARNED THAT RUBINA OIL INC. AND ASSOCIATES HAD PROPOSED TODRILL IN MEKONG DELTA, BOTH ONSHORE AND OFFSHORE, IT APPEARS THAT DR. HUNG MUST HAVE MISTAKENLY CONCLUDED RUBINA OIL WITH ITS ITALIAN SOUNDING NAME IS AN ENI AFFILIATE. ACTUALLY, RUBINA OIL INC. IS A PANAMANIAN FIRM BASED IN SINGAPORE AND IS REPORTEDLY CONTROLLED BY SINGAPORE SHIPPING MAGNATE ROBIN S. K. LOH.

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RAY W. WILLIAMS, A DIRECTOR OF RUBINA OIL, AND JACK ENEN

JR. OF JACK ENEN AND ASSOCIATES, BOTH RESIDENTS OF SINAGPORE, PROPOSED DURING WEEK OF JAN. 14 TO SEVERAL GVN OFFICIALS INCLUDING DR. HUNG TO COMMENCE SEISMIC WORK WITHIN 90 DAYS FROM SIGNATURE OF CONTRACT AND TO DRILL WITHIN 180 DAYS. (SEE REFTTEL B AND C FOR MORE DETAILS). BOTH MEN ALSO APPEARED AT THE EMBASSY TO BRIEF EMBOFF ON THEIR PROPOSAL. THEY SAID THEY WOULD RETURN DURING WEEK OF JAN. 28, BUT TO DATE HAVE NOT RETURNED.

2. ACCORDING TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PETROLEUM BOARD (NPB) THE CABINET AFTER CONSIDERING RUBINA OIL'S PROPOSAL DECIDED IT IS OUTSIDE SCOPE OF NATIONAL PETROLEUM BOARD AND HAS THEREFORE REQUESTED RUBINA OIL TO PARTICIPATE IN SECOND ROUND OF TENDERING FOR OFFSHORE CONCESSIONS LIKE OTHER FIRMS. AS MENTIONED IN REFTTEL D, ONSHORE AREAS IN DELTA WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR TENDERING UNTIL SEISMIC SURVEY HAS BEEN COMPLETED. MARTIN

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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